

ZOLA, NOVELIST AND BEFOEMER

27

upon Zola, but, although he already felt its chill, he would not defer a business visit to Marseilles, He repaired thither, installing himself, as was his habit, at the Hfitel de la Mddi-
 terran<5e kept by one Moulet, in the Eue de 1'Arbra That same night he was attacked by pleurisy, and on the morrow it became necessary to summon his wife, who had remained at Aix. All remedies proved unavailing, and within a week he expired in her arms. Thirty years afterwards that sudden death, in a second-class hotel, amid unpacked trunks and the coming and going of heedless travellers, suggested to Zola's son the account of Charles Grandjean's death given in " Une Page d'Amour " *

It was on Saturday, March 27,1847, that Francois Zola thus passed away. His remains were embalmed, and the obsequies took place at Aix on the ensuing Tuesday, when the clergy went in procession to the Place do la llotcwde, beyond the walls, to receive the body on its arrival The pall-bearers were the sub-prefect, the mayor, the government district engineer, and Maitre Labot, an eminent advocate of the Council of State and the Court of Cassation, who had been one of Zola's leading supporters. The capitular clergy, headed by a Canon-bishop of St. Denis, officiated at the rites in the cathedral; and, as chief mourner,

immediately behind
the hearse, when escorted by the civil and
military authorities it took the road to the cemetery, between
crowds of
spectators, there walked a pale-faced little boy,
barely seven
years of age, who moved as in a dream. In
after years he
retained little recollection of his father. He
pictured him
best, he was wont to say, by the aid of all that
his mother

¹ Paul Alexis' "ifenile Zola; Notes d'un Ami/'
2d edition, Park
1882, p. 130. E. Zola's "line Page d'Amour," Paris, 1878,
pp. 20, 31*